

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A tool bracket, comprising:

~~a mounting base formed along a rotational axis;~~
~~a holder structured to engage an elongated portion of a tool, the holder having a forked tool engaging structure formed along a rotational axis that is common with the rotational axis of the mounting base and joined for rotation relative to the mounting base about the common rotational axis;~~
~~a mounting base joined for relative rotation to the holder; and~~
~~a resilient biasing member coupled to each of the holder and the mounting base and being structured to promote rotation between the holder and the mounting base about the common rotational axis.~~

Claim 2 (original): The tool bracket of claim 1 wherein the biasing member is further structured to apply a rotational force that acts between the holder and the mounting base.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A tool bracket, comprising:

~~a holder structured to engage an elongated portion of a tool;~~
~~a mounting base joined for relative rotation to the holder; and~~
~~a torsional spring biasing member coupled to each of the holder and the mounting base and being structured to promote rotation between the holder and the mounting base.~~
~~The tool bracket of claim 1 wherein the tool engaging structure formed substantially symmetrically about the rotational axis.~~

Claim 4 (previously presented): The tool bracket of claim 1 wherein the biasing member is a torsional spring selected from the group of torsional springs comprising a torsional coil spring, and a straight bar spring.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The tool bracket of claim 1 wherein the holder includes an integral neck portion between a forked portion that is structured to engage an elongated portion of a tool of the holder and the mounting base with the forked portion being projected from the integral neck portion.

Claim 6 (original): The tool bracket of claim 5 wherein the forked portion is further structured to retain an elongated portion of a tool.

Claim 7 (original): The tool bracket of claim 1 wherein the mounting base is structured to attach to any relatively stationary fixed or movable structure.

Claim 8 (original): The tool bracket of claim 1 wherein the mounting base is structured having a flexible clamp portion with a substantially round aperture formed therein and a clamping mechanism for securing the clamp portion to a substantially round structure external to the tool bracket and passing through the round aperture.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A tool bracket comprising:

a mounting base having a mechanism for attaching to an external structure;
style="padding-left: 40px;"/>a forked tool holder rotatably coupled to the mounting base and having pair of interconnected tines projecting from a neck portion along an axis of rotation; and
style="padding-left: 40px;"/>a resilient biasing member coupled between the mounting base and the forked tool holder for urging relative rotation between the forked tool holder and the mounting base about the axis of rotation of the forked tool holder.

Claim 10 (original): The tool bracket of claim 9 wherein the mounting base includes an internal cavity formed opposite from the mechanism for attaching to an external structure and having structure for engaging a first portion of the resilient biasing member.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The tool bracket of claim 10 A tool bracket comprising:
a mounting base having a mechanism for attaching to an external structure;
a forked tool holder rotatably coupled to the mounting base and having pair of interconnected tines projecting from a neck portion;

a resilient biasing member coupled between the mounting base and the forked tool holder for urging relative rotation between the forked tool holder and the mounting base; and

wherein the forked tool holder includes an internal cavity formed opposite from the neck portion and the interconnected tines projecting therefrom, the internal cavity having structure for engaging a first portion of the resilient biasing member and further having structure for engaging a second portion of the resilient biasing member opposite from the first portion.

Claim 12 (original): The tool bracket of claim 11 wherein the resilient biasing member further comprises a torsional spring.

Claim 13 (original): The tool bracket of claim 9 wherein the mechanism of the mounting base for attaching to an external structure is a clamp portion structured for mounting on a substantially round external structure.

Claim 14 (original): The tool bracket of claim 13 wherein the clamp portion comprises a pair of spaced-apart legs formed with a substantially round aperture therethrough for passing over the external structure and being secured thereto.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A bracket for securing a tool having an elongated portion, the bracket comprising:

a-an attaching means and a tool engaging means both being formed along a common axis of rotation, wherein:

the attaching means is structured for attaching to an external structure;

a the tool engaging means is structured for securely engaging an elongated portion of a tool, and

the engaging means is rotatably coupled to the attaching means for mutual relative rotation about the common axis of rotation securely engaging an elongated portion of a tool; and

a means coupled between the engaging means and the attaching means for resiliently rotationally biasing the engaging means relative to the attaching means about the common axis of rotation.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A bracket for securing a tool having an elongated portion, the bracket comprising:

a means for attaching to an external structure;
a means rotatably coupled to the attaching means for securely engaging an elongated portion of a tool; and

a resilient The bracket of claim 15 wherein the biasing means is structured to supply a torsional force between the engaging means and the attaching means ~~for resiliently rotationally biasing the engaging means relative to the attaching means.~~

Claim 17 (original): The bracket of claim 15 wherein the biasing means is a torsional spring.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The bracket of claim 15 wherein the engaging means includes means for retaining an elongated portion of a tool that is engaged therewith.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A tool bracket for engaging and retaining an elongated portion of a tool, the tool bracket comprising:

a tool holder having a foot portion with a forked portion extending therefrom along an axis of rotation;

a mounting base having a shoe portion rotatably interconnected with the foot portion of the tool holder for rotation about the axis of rotation; and

a torsional spring positioned between the foot portion and the shoe portion, the spring being coupled to each of the foot portion and the shoe portion and supplying a reactive rotational force about the axis of rotation in an opposite direction to a rotational force input from an external source.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The tool bracket of claim 19 wherein the torsional spring is a torsional coil spring.

Claim 21 (new): A tool bracket for engaging and retaining an elongated portion of a tool, the tool bracket comprising:

a forked tool holder comprising a neck portion extending from a foot portion and a pair of elongated tines extended from the neck portion along a common axis of rotation, the foot portion having an open mouth cavity formed therein opposite from the neck portion and tines;

a shoe portion separate from the forked tool holder, the shoe portion having an open mouth cavity formed therein opposite from the forked tool holder and being coupled to the foot portion of the tool holder along the common axis of rotation for mutual relative rotation about the common axis of rotation with the two open mouth cavities being joined in a combined cavity; and

a spring within the combined cavity and coupled between the shoe portion and the foot portion of the tool holder for relatively rotationally biasing the forked tool holder and shoe portion about the common axis of rotation.

Claim 22 (new): The tool bracket of claim 21 wherein the spring further comprises a torsional spring.

Claim 23 (new): The tool bracket of claim 21 wherein the shoe portion further comprises a means for engaging an external structure.